Janelle

From Funk to Broadway Belters, Miss Monae will take you back to the entertainment era; where androids existed?

"It's a big universe," says singer Janelle Monáe. "To stay in one tiny place is doing a disservice to yourself." The 24-year-old is operating way outside the hackneyed American Idol set that a lot of music seems currently slumped in to be sure: Her album, *Archandroid*, is a concept record about a female android on the run in a futuristic police state. Monáe's songs, inspired by *Fritz Lang's Metropolis* (1927), *Ridley Scott's Blade Runner* (1982), and the literary science fiction of *Octavia E. Butler* and *Isaac Asimov*, caught the attention of *Diddy* and *OutKast's Big Boi*, both of whom signed on to executive produce the records. Monáe once made an escape of her own, breaking from a drug-addled family in Kansas City, Kansas, first to study musical theater in New York, and then to thrive in Atlanta's funk scene. "Not having a lot of resources at my disposal, I needed to use my imagination," she says. "I needed to show my cousins that there is hope." *Archandroid* is an exhilarating trip through party jams and semi-operatic arias. Her music, in fact, has garnered comparisons to *OutKast*. *Diddy* said she's the most important artist he's ever signed to his *Bad Boy Records* label. Monáe, who also co-owns the record label *The Wondaland Arts Society*, attributes her eclectic sound to a fundamental vision quest. "It's unfortunate that a lot of people think African-American female artists are monolithically

The most important artist ever signed to Bad Boy Records label.

6 things you didn't know:

★ *Janelle* is tiny at just 5 foot!

★ Before s… career, J… in Broadw… we feel li… movie afte… (the Archa…

★ She recorded … in a haunted a… *Palace for Dog… Tightrope* video…

"It's a bi…

Check out more from Lykke Li at:

Words: Michael Rollin. Compiled by: Lucy Hodges. Images: youtube.com/lykkeli

★ Introducing ★

Little Bit

Lykke Li is the very first 'Women of the Month' for *Trend*, and the reasons for this are endless. At only 26, Lykke has already achieved a lot, but she still remains relatively 'underground' in terms of the music industry; and isn't that where all the decent music lies? She captured the interest of Drake back in 2008 when he recorded a remix of her song 'Little Bit' - an unlikely but effective combination of fresh hip hop beats and Lykke's signature style (a blend of pop, electronic, indie and rock).

It seems Lykke has all the right moves when it comes to working with other artists. Not only has she worked with Drake, she has also collaborated with Kanye, Santongold, Kings of Leon and Rick Ross.

The Swedish singer was bound to achieve something creative in her life. She grew up with her mother, a photographer and father, a musician. So it's no surprise the girl has so much talent and passion for what she does. As well as achieving a successful and eclectic music career, she has also delved into the acting and modeling world. In 2010 she began working on her modeling career with Levis and at the beginning of 2012 she was signed to the Viva Model management agency. Keep your eyes out and expect to see even more From this talented young wo…

★ Interview ★

…I'm in the …e exactly …d but going …ed! It's …oment … uphill … The …run"

to friends. Go to the cinema. Go to Fstreet. Go outside. Go and watch some kind of live performance. Anything that feels new and exciting."

IF YOU WERE NOT A SINGER, WHAT WOULD YOU BE DOING?

"Going to MI5 to hand in my C.V."

Check out more from Pharrell at:

www.n-e-r-d.com
www.twitter.com/Pharrell
www.trendmag.co.uk/artistofthemonth

Words: Lucy Hodges. Compiled by: Lucy Hodges. Images: pinterest.com

KAT-B… ?

twitter

an open mind and a willingness to learn. "@DJwoske: @Pharrell BOSS. What tools do u use to create?"

N*E*R*D? Neptunes? Or just plain old Pharrell Williams? Whatever you know him for, it's gonna be for something amazing. And if you don't know who he is, then you'll definitely have heard or seen his work. Forget 'Man of the Month', Pharrell deserves the title 'Man of all time'. He's extremely popular with the ladies, but he definitely isn't just a pretty face. This man is the epitome of what *Trend* is all about: celebrating artists from around the world who have no boundaries, and defy the stereotypical recipe of music that we see so often in the industry.

He started his career working with fellow N*E*R*D (No one Ever Really Dies) band member *Chad Hugo* in The Neptune's. Together they produced some of the most successful records in the last 2 decades working with artists such as *Kelis*, *Snoop Dogg* and *Jay Z*. From this the pair formed N*E*R*D (who are, arguably, better known by most people) in 2001 along with 3rd member *Shay Haley*. As well as a successful career as part of N*E*R*D, Pharrell has also achieved huge success with his solo career, with massive hits such as *Frontin'* and *Number One*.

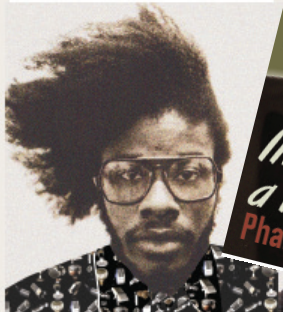
If all of this isn't enough, Pharrell is also the co-founder of clothing brands *Billionaire Boys Club* and *Ice Cream* footwear which can be seen in *John Anthony* stores here in the UK. In 2010 he even recorded his first film score for the Golden Globe awarded film *Despicable Me*. It seems Pharrell's talents are endless, and we can't wait to see what he comes up with next.

Jesse Boyk…

For someone with so much talent and p… to believe hardly any of you had heard … you…

We got the opportunity to catch up with *Jesse Boykins III* briefly between performances here in the UK (he's currently on tour with his band (*The Beauty Created*). Jesse has been releasing music since early 2008 and like most 'real' artists now, he's generally only recognized by those of us that are passionate for music. He grew up in Chicago but since then has moved around the US. He feels the travelling he has done opened his mind creatively.

Jesse says his music is influence by salsa from Miami, soul music from Chicago and …



May 2012 £3
TREND
Change the vogue with the music
TIME FOR SOMETHING NEW OLD
The top 5 soundtracks from the last 10 years
ARE YOU COVERED? LISSIE IS
GET ROMANTIC WITH JESSE BOYKINS III
In search of a N*E*R*D
Pharrell Williams
Janelle Monae
ARCHANDROID'S & ANDROGYNISM